

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed March 31, 2009, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 8-21 remain in the Application, where claim 7 had been previously canceled without prejudice, claim 6 has been currently canceled without prejudice, and claims 18-21 have been currently added. Claims 1, 11 and 16 are independent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 15 for a certain informality. In response, claim 15 has been amended to remove the noted informality. It is respectfully submitted that the objection to claim 15 has been overcome and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-10, 12 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0079512 (Yamazaki) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0020939 (Ikeda). Claim 2 is

rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamazaki in view of Ikeda and U.S. Patent No. 5,610,629 (Baur). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamazaki in view of Ikeda and U.S. Patent No. 5,742,279 (Yamamoto). Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamazaki in view of Ikeda and U.S. Patent No. 5,623,344 (Lane). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamazaki in view of Ikeda and WO 00/75766 (Macinnes). Applicants respectfully traverse and submit that claims 1-5 and 8-21 are patentable over Yamazaki, Ikeda, Baur, Yamamoto, Lane and Macinnes for at least the following reasons.

Yamazaki is directed to an information device with a pen input function. Ikeda is directed to an electronic instrument which can reduce its power consumption. In rejecting claim 6, on page 4, second full paragraph of the Office Action, FIGs 35-38 of Ikeda are cited to allegedly show adapting "the visual information for display on the unobscured parts of the display which are unobscured by the one or more objects," as currently recited in independent claims 1 and 16.

It is respectfully submitted that FIGs 35-38 of Ikeda merely

show displaying different information on unobscured parts of the display, such as shown in FIGs 37A-37B.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 16, amongst other patentable elements recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

wherein the apparatus is configured to sense one or more objects when placed upon or positioned in proximity to the display and obscuring at least part of the visual information displayed on the display, and to adapt the visual information for display on the unobscured parts of the display which are unobscured by the one or more objects.

Adapting and displaying the very same visual information on unobscured parts of the display is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Yamazaki, Ikeda, and combination thereof. Rather, FIGs 37A-37B of Ikeda show displaying different information on unobscured parts of the display.

Further, on pages 8-9 of the Office Action, the Examiner correctly noted that Yamazaki and Ikeda do not disclose or suggest providing "a priority identifier for each of the features for determining which of the features to omit from presentation in the

user interface in a situation where at least part of the display is obscured," as recited in independent claim 11. Column 30, lines 5-17 of Lane is cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Yamazaki and Ikeda. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that Lane specifically recites on column 30, lines 5-17:

The sub-set of video header data listed as being assigned to priority level 1 in the above prioritization list associated with the prioritizer 104, is essential for the decoding of a picture. Accordingly, this data is assigned to the highest possible priority level by the prioritizer 104. The sub-set of video header data listed as being assigned to priority level 2 is necessary for the decoding of large sections of a picture and is therefore assigned to the second highest priority level. However, if the image to be reproduced during trick play operation is cropped, e.g., because of data constraints, some data assigned to priority level 2 would be unnecessary as it corresponds to the cropped regions and should be assigned to a very low priority level. (Emphasis added)

That is, first, an image is cropped and, then, priority of the data associated with the cropped image is downgraded to "a very low priority level."

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 11, amongst other patentable elements recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

the apparatus being arranged to present the user interface comprising a plurality of user interface features, the computer hardware being provided with a priority identifier for each of the features for determining which of the features to omit from presentation in the user interface in a situation where at least part of the display is obscured.

Providing priority identifiers for determining which of the features to omit from presentation is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Yamazaki, Ikeda, Lane and combination thereof. Rather, Lane discloses downgrading or assigning low priority to already cropped images, and is completely silent about using priority identifiers to determine what to crop. Baur, Yamamoto and Macinnes are cited to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Yamazaki, Ikeda and Lane.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 11 and 16 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 8-10, 12-15 and 17-21 are also allowable at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 16 as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the

dependent claims is respectfully requested.

For example, page 4 of the Office Action alleges that paragraph [0291] of Yamazaki discloses the features of claim 4. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that paragraph [0291] of Yamazaki specifically recites:

Further, the period for reading in one screen of the sensor portion is generally equal to or longer than one frame period of the EL display portion. Light is therefore irradiated intermittently to the pen tip of the input pen from pixels in the vicinity of the location indicated by the pen tip of the input pen during a period of time whose length corresponds to the sum of the subframe periods during which the EL elements emit light within the period for reading in one screen of the sensor portion. Light can therefore be input to the photodiodes of the pixels in the vicinity of the location indicated by the pen tip of the input pen by using this irradiated light.
(Emphasis added)

By Contrast, claim 4 recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

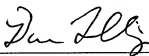
wherein the computer hardware is operable to execute a first coarser scan to determine spatial location of the one or more objects on or in proximity of the display, and then execute a second finer scan to assimilate finer details of the one or more objects.

The noted section, namely, paragraph [0291] of Yamazaki has nothing to do with coarse or fine scanning as recited in claim 4.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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